

Travel in Sports

4AD Jimmy Cheng Ruixin (2)

Travelling to a beautiful place to take part in sports tournaments is a very rewarding experience. I am a member of Feng Ling Basketball Team. My teammates and I recently went to Sichuan to participate in a basketball tournament. We stayed there for over two days and played in two games.

One early Saturday morning in October, nine other members of Feng Ling Basketball Team and I were led by our team leader and coach. We took high speed rail to join the basketball tournament in Sichuan. When we were there, we rode the “Yellow Man” bicycle from our hotel to the games venue in order to reduce carbon dioxide and protect the local environment. While riding a bicycle and looking at the scenery around me all the way, I was impressed by the sunny day and the fresh air. On both sides of the driveway were flowers and trees with different shapes, which made me feel comfortable. When we arrived at the games venue, we were half done with our preparation, because cycling made us move all over the body, which enabled us to play very well in the competition.

Sports teams were very hungry after games. So, we walked about ten minutes to a local restaurant where there were pesticide-free vegetables and wild chickens on the mountain. There was also a special snack, ‘mutton paomo’. We ate it with relish. As we could have such a delicious lunch after playing the game, we felt incomparably happy. In addition, we were supporting a local restaurant and tasted the local specialties, so we felt satisfied.

After lunch, we took a short rest in a nearby park, and then took the local pollution-free battery car to visit Dujiangyan, the largest water conservancy project in ancient China. Located on the Minjiang River in the west of Chengdu plain, Dujiangyan was built around 256 BC to 251 BC. It was a large-scale water conservancy project organized by Li Bing and his son after the previous flooding evacuation. It has been playing a major role in flood control and irrigation for more than 2000 years, making Chengdu plain a land of abundance and rich fields. It is the oldest and the only preserved land in the world with a grand water conservancy project characterized by water diversions without dams. Standing on the cable bridge of Minjiang River, I

couldn't help but marvel at the diligence and wisdom of our ancestors.

Over the two days, other than taking part in the basketball tournament, we took up the role of responsible travelers. We all walked, rode bicycle or took electric vehicles, which were pollution-free. For the three meals every day, we ate only at locally owned restaurants to support local businesses. We also joined a local tour to learn about the greatness of water conservancy projects in ancient China and the hardships in the construction process.

This is a trip with more than one stroke. We have achieved both sports tourism and responsible tourism. Dear students, don't you want to participate?